



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEER RECOGNIZED FOR EFFORTS DURING SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA FIRES

AmeriCorps Member Ensured Shelters Received Critical Materials

SACRAMENTO - The Governor's Office on Service and Volunteerism (GO SERV) *Spotlight* features the hard work of Janet Sparks, for her efforts during the Southern California fires.

During the fires, Ms. Sparks worked 12 hours per day answering the donation hotline. She collected all the donation information, which was used to develop a database for in-kind goods to help displaced families. Without Ms. Sparks help, critical materials needed in the various shelters may not have been available.

When she is not helping during disasters, Ms. Sparks serves with U.S. VETS, INC. in Los Angeles County. U.S. VETS is the largest organization in the country dedicated to helping homeless veterans, and a nationally recognized leader in the field of service delivery to veterans. U.S. VETS is an innovative public-private partnership created to fill gaps in the continuum of care for homeless veterans

"Janet is one of those special volunteers that provided critical help during the Southern California fires," Executive Director of GO SERV, Davis Muraki said. "She pushed everything aside to ensure that those families affected by the fires received the vital items they needed."

The GO SERV Spotlight recognizes people and programs, on a weekly basis, making a difference in their communities through service and volunteerism. To view the full Spotlight story, visit the GO SERV website at www.goserv.ca.gov. Visitors to the GO SERV site can nominate someone for a Spotlight award and/or find a volunteer opportunity in their community through the volunteer match program.

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